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News Brief: EPA Awards Environmental Education Grants to Recipients in 24 States, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON: Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the completion of the latest round of awards under the Environmental Education (EE) Grants Program.

From over 400 applications received in February and March of 2015, EPA has funded 35 grants from across the country, ranging from \$40,000-\$192,200 for a total of approximately \$3.3 million. Since 1992, EPA has distributed between \$2 and \$3.5 million in grant funding per year, for a total of approximately \$65.5 million supporting more than 3,600 grant projects.

Winners of the competition include organizations from 24 states as well as from Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. States include: Alabama, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

Projects include a community-based program to study Monarch butterflies, a watershed and stream monitoring teacher training program, a classroom-based simulation of the UN Climate Summit, and a mobile laboratory. Additional projects include other school-based, after-school, and non-formal EE programs focusing on a range of environmental issues from air quality to recycling.

This year, EPA distributed two types of grants under the EE Grants Program. Projects awarded under the Model Grants Request for Proposals (RFP) are intended to serve as model, replicable projects, and projects will be implemented in at least two states. Local Grant awards fund locally-focused EE projects. EPA anticipates issuing a new RFP for Local Grants in the winter of 2015-2016.

This longstanding, highly competitive grants program supports EE projects that increase public awareness about environmental issues and provide participants with the skills to

take responsible actions to protect the environment. This grant program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques.

For more information on the new awardees and on how to apply for future EE grant competitions visit, <http://www2.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>.